

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Federal Highway Administration****Environmental Impact Statement:
Jackson County, Missouri**

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The FHWA is issuing this notice to advise the public that an environmental impact statement (EIS) will be prepared for proposed improvements to the transportation system in Jackson County, Missouri.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Donald Neumann, Programs Engineer, FHWA Division Office, 209 Adams St., Jefferson City, MO 65101, Telephone: (573) 636-7104 or Mr. Steve Noble, Manager, Long Range Transportation Planning, Mid-America Regional Council, 600 Broadway, Suite 300, Kansas City, MO 65105, Telephone: (816) 474-4240.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FHWA, in cooperation with the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC), will prepare an EIS for proposed improvements to the transportation system in Jackson County, Missouri. Improvements to the corridor are considered necessary to provide for a safe and efficient transportation network.

MARC initiated a Major Investment Study (MIS) in April 1997 to identify and evaluate potential transportation improvements in the Missouri River Corridor. The area studied during the MIS is generally located along the Missouri River in Clay and Jackson Counties. The boundaries of the study area were I-70 on the south, I-35 on the west, N. 48th Street on the north, and M-7 on the east. The east-west distance of the study area is approximately 17 miles. The north-south distance ranges from six miles on the eastern end to approximately 10 miles on the western end. Major Routes studied included M-210, U.S. 24, M-78, M-12, Chouteau Trafficway, Front Street, and the proposed Little Blue and South Riverfront Expressways. As a result of the MIS, this EIS will address the impacts associated with improvements on Front Street between I-29/35 and I-435, improvements on the Chouteau Trafficway between I-35 and Front street (excluding the Chouteau Bridge which is currently under construction), and construction of the South Riverfront and Little Blue River Expressways.

The goals of the proposed project established during the MIS include: 1) improve the safety of the Missouri River

Corridor facilities; 2) improve mobility in the Missouri River Corridor; 3) facilitate the development of an efficient, integrated transportation system; 4) support economic development; 5) manage the transportation system to maximize the return on the Region's investment in highway and transit networks; 6) maintain or improve the quality of the natural environment, and 7) enhance quality of life. A location study will run concurrently with the preparation of the EIS. It will advance both "build" and "no build" alternatives for evaluation by the EIS.

The scoping process, which began during the MIS, will continue with appropriate federal, state, local agencies, private organizations and citizens who have previously expressed or are known to have interest in this proposal. Preliminary information has been issued to local officials and other interested parties. Additional public meetings will be held to further engage the regional community in the decisionmaking process and to obtain public comment. A public hearing will be held to present the findings of the DEIS. The DEIS will be available for public and agency review and comment prior to the public hearing.

To ensure that the full range of issues related to this proposed action are addressed and all significant issues identified, comments and suggestions are invited from all interested parties. Comments or questions concerning this proposed action and the EIS should be directed to the FHWA or MARC at the addresses provided above.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Number 20.205, Highway Planning and Construction. The regulations implementing Executive Order 12373 regarding intergovernmental consultation on Federal programs and activities apply to this program).

Issued: October 27, 1998.

Donald L. Neumann,

Programs Engineer, Jefferson City.

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**UNITED STATES INFORMATION
AGENCY****Development of an Educational
Advisers Reference Tool and Research
Service for Overseas U.S. Educational
Advising Centers**

ACTION: Notice—request for proposals.

SUMMARY: The Advising and Student Services Branch of the United States Information Agency's Bureau of

Educational and Cultural Affairs announces an open competition for an assistance award. Public or private non-profit organizations meeting the provisions described in IRS regulation 26 CFR 1.501(c)(3)-1 may apply. In collaboration with the United States Information Agency (USIA), the organization should produce an educational advisers reference tool to provide timely and in-depth information on trends and developments in U.S. higher education and other issues and topics relevant to the USIA-affiliated overseas educational advising and information centers. The organization will also answer reference inquiries from USIA-designated educational advising offices overseas. USIA anticipates awarding up to \$90,000 to one organization for these activities.

Overview

In the interest of providing this material in a broad and timely manner, USIA encourages submissions that propose delivery via electronic (e.g. web, e-mail) as well as traditional print means. The proposal should illustrate how the organization will produce an internet website, e-mail format, and/or print version to provide timely and in-depth information for the staff of the USIA-affiliated overseas educational advising and information centers which provide accurate, unbiased information on, and advise foreign nationals about, opportunities for studying in the United States. The information should be centered on an overall theme related to trends and developments in international student mobility, the practice of educational advising, or U.S. higher education which will enhance the guidance given by overseas educational advisers to international students and others who inquire about opportunities for studying in the United States.

Guidelines

The website must be designed in a user-friendly fashion, with an index of topics, and ideally in a format that can be shared directly with students with minimal repackaging by the adviser. If necessary, the website may be password protected. E-mail issues of timely topics must be distributed regularly. If a print version is produced, the organization should describe what publishing capacity will be used to assure that each issue (at least 32 pages) is produced quickly and efficiently (at least four times a year) in an attractive typeset quality format.

In addition, funds will be awarded to enable the recipient to perform